

## **Program Performance Report**

### **Funded Projects in FY06**

#### **Child Advocacy Centers**

FFY06 Grant money was provided to the Child Advocacy Centers in Missouri, necessary to improve the processes by which Missouri could respond to cases of child abuse and neglect, particularly, child sexual abuse, or exploitation. Forensic examinations, victim interviews, referrals to treatment providers, gathering and retention of forensic evidence used for criminal prosecution of the offender, were made possible through funding provided by the CJA grant.

There are 15 Child Advocacy Centers located across the State, with some locations having satellite offices, serving children and families in the surrounding counties. This process allows for a one-time interview of the victim, with the opportunity for the physical examination to occur in the same location, preventing unnecessary stress and trauma to the child victim and their family. Child Advocacy Centers often facilitate scheduling the exams and interviews to further assist in the investigation and criminal prosecution process.

SAFE-CARE network providers (physicians, and other medical providers who conduct forensic examinations) work in close collaboration with the Child Advocacy Centers. The mission statement of the SAFE-CARE Network continues to be “to improve outcomes for children who are victims of, or at risk for, child maltreatment by enhancing the skills and role of the medical provider in a multidisciplinary context”.

In SFY(06), 3,161 SAFE-CARE exams were conducted, and there were 93 participating SAFE-CARE providers.

While data related to the successful prosecution of perpetrators involved in cases that are served by the Child Advocacy Centers is not available, it is well established that the forensic process provided by the Advocacy Centers, including the handling of evidence and quality of victim interviews, continues to improve the investigation and judicial handling (prosecution) process.

The majority of forensic interviewers who conduct the victim interviews use a model interviewing technique called “Finding Words”. By using this technique, the quality of the victim interview is raised to a standard that prosecutors consider helpful in the prompt and successful resolution of civil, and particularly, the criminal court proceedings.

CJA Support for the Child Advocacy Centers facilitated compliance with RSMo 210.001.1, which designates Child Advocacy Centers in Missouri.

## **Report of the Task Force – Three Year Review and Assessment**

During 2004 – 2007, as part of the on-going education, assessment and review of activities of the Children's Division and the State Courts, the Task Force was provided with multiple and regular presentations and reports. In addition, during June through August 2005, the Task Force developed a comprehensive strategic plan for 2005-2007, which required intense review and assessment of the Child Protective Services System in Missouri, including the Children's Division and the Courts. To comply with the legislative intent set forth in House Bill 1453 to improve the Children's Division, the transparency of the Courts, and collaboration of the various systems, new by-laws were developed to articulate the multi-disciplinary intentions of the Task Force. (See attachment, By-Laws). In addition, new Task Force members were appointed.

The presentations/reports provided included:

### **Courts presentations:**

- Missouri Supreme Commission on Children's Justice Final Report presentation and handout
- Foster/Conley Report
- Court Efforts and HB1453
- Judicial Department Training Efforts
- Charts and information provided on number of children entering foster care (January04 – March06), related to Heartland Decision [Heartland Academy Community Church v. Waddle, 427 F.3d 525, 202 Ed. Law Rep. 629 (8th Cir.(Mo.) Oct 14, 2005)]
- Presentation by OSCA on fostering Court Improvement – Missouri pilot project

### **Children's Division presentations:**

- State Auditor reports
- CFSR Review and Findings
- PIP proposed recommendations
- Child Welfare (outcomes) measure website provided (re: CFSR and pip progress tracking)
- Children's Division and HB1453
- On-going DSS and CD Budget Updates at quarterly Task Force meetings
- August 2005 Children's Division Signs of Progress report
- Presentation on Accreditation with regular updates
- Contracted Case Management updates - ongoing
- Governor's Quarterly Goals Report for Children's Division
- Children's Division Quality Assurance presentation

2004-2005 Office of Child Advocate Annual report

Additional activities that have occurred to facilitate the Task Force assessment:

Strategic Planning 2005

Development of new By-Laws

Strategic Action Team#1 meeting with stakeholders Oct 05, and shared outcome with full Task Force.

Strategic Action Team#2 completed Service Gap analysis, and shared findings with full Task Force.

Co-chair of Task Force tour of CA/N hotline unit

Proposed Legislation was Discussed:

- HB 580 : concerning mandated reporters calling in hotlines under 3 conditions. Concerns centered on the potential deterring effect on hotline calls. Conditions 1&2 are acceptable and already get reported. #3 is the concern, and there will be more calls to the hotline. If a minor is sexually active, a mandated report would be made.
- SB 539: Concerns means testing for adoption subsidy and guardianship.

*Letter was written by Task Force and given to Senate Pro-Tem and Speaker of the House in response to these two House Bills.*

- Sexual predator bill in legislation currently was discussed.
- Adoption subsidy bill, no hearing scheduled.
- Adding “bullying” to the list of offenses is too vague and could have civil liberties challenges.
- Medicaid: small changes to previous legislation
- CASA legislation, increase in the court fee will benefit CASA.
- Accreditation. The purpose of accreditation is to foster a practice that creates a culture of quality driven work, increases staff morale, and boosts consumer and stakeholder confidence.

*Task Force met with Department and Division Directors in support of Accreditation.*

**Assessment:**

During the Strategic Planning sessions, the Task Force completed a System assessment to evaluate the system’s capacity both now and in the future to move toward the vision in light of the demands it will likely experience in the years ahead. A SWOT analysis was

the process used in identifying the system's strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats (i.e., SWOT) given the vision and implications of a variety of trends.

The SWOT analysis included a critical look at the following elements of the Child Protection System in Missouri:

1. Legislation, Policies and Procedures, & Court Rules;
2. Achievement of System Outcomes (Results);
3. Case Management and Work Processes and Practices;
4. Use of Technology, MIS, & Use of Data and Information;
5. Collaboration with Partners and Access to and Use of Community Resources;
6. Public/Community Image and Support;
7. Resources: Funding, Staffing Levels, etc.;
8. Work Environment and Morale of Staff.

The analysis revealed that the current Child Protection System has multiple strengths – there is much that is in place and done well. However, the SWOT analysis also revealed areas for improvement in the future. (See Attachment C for a complete summary of the strengths and weaknesses of the System.)

Given the results of the assessment, below are some of the opportunities and threats facing the Task Force and the Child Protection System in the years ahead. (See Attachment C of the Strategic Plan for a complete list of the possible opportunities and threats.)

Some of the opportunities include:

1. Educating decision-makers and the public on how the system works.
2. Advocating for positive collaboration among all players at the state and local levels.
3. Proactively reporting on successes.
4. Pursuing innovative funding (e.g., grants, private/public partnership).
5. Helping create/shape effective delivery of services.
6. Advocating for workers/staff and helping to resolve issues.

A few of the sizable threats include:

1. Lack of stable, adequate, and flexible short and long-term funding; lack of sustainability of funding; competing needs; and lack of private funding.
2. Turf issues that impede true collaboration.
3. Turnover of staff.
4. Lack of statistics/data that show progress; failure to use the data to make better decisions.
5. Perception of quick fix.

## TASK FORCE RECOMMENDATIONS

The Task Force has worked diligently to make recommendations for improving the child protection system (CPS) over the years. The Task Force reviews and evaluates the State's investigative, administrative, civil and criminal judicial handling of cases of child physical and sexual abuse and neglect. Policy and training recommendations have been made in each of these CJA categories as described in Section 107 (e), of the child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act.

Currently, the Task Force actively promotes improvements for the child protective system as a whole, fostering collaboration amongst all reaches of the system, including the child welfare agency, other public and private organizations, the courts, law enforcement, the general public, and more, while remaining focused on the objectives outlined by CAPTA.

Recent examples of the Task Force's initiatives include: (1) supporting legislation to increase background criminal checks on potential foster and relative placement providers; (2) supporting implementation of Structured Decision Making, research based policy and practice within the child abuse/neglect hotline unit, as well as in the field; (3) opposing legislation that mandated child abuse/neglect reporting of sexually active teenagers; and (4) supporting legislation to provide for voluntary placement agreements for parents of children with (non child abuse/neglect) mental health issues.

The Task Force completed strategic planning during 2005. The Final Strategic Plan includes the mission of the task force; a desired vision of Missouri's Child Protection System; an overview of a trends analysis and system assessment; long-range strategic issues, goals, objectives, and first-year strategic priorities; and a conclusion. Four key issues emerged from the strategic planning process, and task groups were formed to address specific objectives in each of the following areas: Adequate, Stable, & Flexible Funding; Improved and Expanded Services; Staff Development & Positive Work Environment; Positive Image & Public Support. Currently, the Task Force is moving forward to accomplish the tasks and objectives outlined in the Strategic Plan, reviewing and reporting on progress achieved during each quarterly meeting.

The Task Force has shared its Strategic Plan with the Department of Social Services, and the State Courts Administrator. The Task Force believes its Strategic Plan will facilitate improvements in the handling of child abuse and neglect reports, child fatalities, multi-jurisdictional issues, training in community multidisciplinary team concepts, and education of mandated reports, particularly as these areas are related to child sexual abuse.

## **Task Force Recommendations (*with agency response in italics*):**

### **Section 107(e)(1)(A):**

**Investigative, administrative, and judicial handling of cases of child abuse and neglect, particularly child sexual abuse and exploitation, as well as cases involving suspected child maltreatment related fatalities and cases involving a potential combination of jurisdictions, such as interstate, Federal-State, and State-Tribal, in a manner which reduces the additional trauma to the child victim and the victim's family and which also ensures procedural fairness to the accused;**

### **Policy:**

**Recommendation:** Children's Division to achieve National Accreditation.

The Children's Division's achievement of Accreditation continues to be a top priority of the Task Force. The recommendation was made to include in this year's annual report/grant application to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, that the Task Force recommends the Department aggressively pursue funding from the Legislature in 2007 to complete accreditation.

*The Department of Social Services budget request for 2007 does include additional funding support for accreditation efforts. The budget is pending approval by the Legislature. The FFY07 grant request/three year report will include this recommendation.*

*The Children's Division continues to make successful progress towards achieving accreditation. Accreditation is a top priority for the Children's Division.*

**Recommendation:** Recommend Children's Division to educate the Task Force on budget and sources with recommendations on increased and flexible funding.

*Budget updates were provided at quarterly Task Force meetings.*

*Children's Division budget recommended pay step increase for supervisors, currently in Legislation.*

Recommendation: Review progress made on HB1453.

*House Bill 1453 required multitudes of policy and practice changes to occur. The changes were immediately implemented upon the date of effectiveness of the new Legislation.*

*The Children's Division is currently working with the Task Force for a comprehensive review of the agency's response (policy and procedures) to House Bill 1453.*

Recommendation: Evaluate the feasibility of a dual, career-track program with pay incentives.

*The Children's Division reviewed budget, and funds were not available at the time to initiate a pay incentive program for employees. However, CD has moved forward with recommending a pay step increase for supervisors, which will help with staff recruitment, retention and morale. The supervisor step increase is currently being considered in Legislation.*

Recommendation: CD to conduct a workplace study to determine employee needs regarding a professional and safe environment.

*In preparation for accreditation, each local circuit completed a circuit self-evaluation. The results have been, and continue to be used for improving the work conditions to a standard which meets National Accreditation guidelines.*

*In addition, a state-wide employee survey is completed annually. Employees are provided the opportunity to participate anonymously, and work conditions are included in the survey topics. The results are evaluated, shared and addressed by the Quality Assurance Unit and Children's Division Administration.*

### **Training:**

Recommendation: Cross Training between Social Services and Courts.

*Cross Training/ Multi-Disciplinary Training is a common goal and common focus between the courts and the Children's Division. There are continuing efforts to provide state-wide multi-disciplinary training.*

*With the Juvenile Court Improvement Project, the Children's Division provided funding for OSCA to arrange for training in the following areas: court room skills, collaboration training, and roles and responsibilities. OSCA continues to provide additional training, with the Children's Division attending.*

*Local training efforts regularly occur between the courts and the Children's Division as well.*

**Section 107(e)(1)(B):**

**Experimental, model, and demonstration programs for testing innovative approaches and techniques which may improve the prompt and successful resolution of civil and criminal court proceedings or enhance the effectiveness of judicial and administrative action in child abuse and neglect cases, particularly child sexual abuse and exploitation cases, including the enhancement of performance of court-appointed attorneys and guardians ad litem for children, and which also ensure fairness to the accused;**

**Policy:**

**Recommendation:** Review the outcomes of Children's Division's quality assurance program and make recommendations to improve the effectiveness of services.

*Children's Division QA presentation - Task Force members were invited to participate.*

*August 2005 Children's Division Signs of Progress report provided to Task Force members.*

*Contracted Case Management presentation was provided during a Task Force meeting.*

*Child Welfare measure website provided (CFSR and pip progress) to the Task Force members.*

*Governor's Quarterly Goals Report for Children's Division – handout provided.*

*Discussion of necessity of referrals with request made for Task Force review and recommendations.*

*Children's Division policies are now on internet for public review.*

*Other presentations were provided at quarterly meetings, including:*

- *Accreditation*
- *State Auditor reports*
- *CFR Review and Findings*
- *PIP proposed recommendations*
- *CD and HB1453*



Recommendation: Evaluate the effectiveness of the structured decision-making model as it effects case management and caseload.

Recommendation: Research the implication of drug activity related to child welfare cases.

*The Children's Division is currently in the process of obtaining and evaluating, along with the Task Force, data related to drug activity in child welfare cases.*

**Training:**

Recommendation: Conduct a “service gap analysis” by using existing evaluations, and make recommendations to fill gaps;  
and

Recommendation: Prioritize service areas with deficiencies and use research on best practices to address issues;  
and

Recommendation: Analyze existing studies/data relating to optimal size and nature of caseloads and make recommendations.

*The Children's Division work towards accreditation, including circuit self-assessments, and preparation for site visits, addresses “service gaps”, or deficient service areas. Accreditation standards are considered best practice standards. The Children's Division is making significant progress towards achieving accreditation.*

**Section 107(e)(1)(C):**

**Reform of State laws, ordinances, regulations, protocols and procedures to provide comprehensive protection for children from abuse, particularly sexual abuse and exploitation, while ensuring fairness to all affected persons.**

**Policy:**

Recommendation: Educate key legislative decision makers on positive outcomes of CPS;  
and

Recommendation: Make presentations to develop ongoing dialogue with the legislature and budget committees on need for adequate funding of core services.

*A request was made by the Governor for the Task Force to review progress made on HB1453 requirements, with recommendations due by September 2007. This will require an additional time commitment beyond the quarterly meetings. The Task Force is currently in the early planning stages of this project. This task will be the priority focus for the Task Force for most of 2007.*

*The Task Force is currently developing a plan with the University of Missouri School of Journalism on developing ongoing dialogue strategies with key stakeholders, including Legislators.*

**Training:**

Recommendation: Develop collaboration with higher education institutions for innovative projects and funding;

and

Recommendation: Develop public relations strategy (in partner with universities, public, corporations to create media campaign);

and

Recommendation: Establish relationships and increase understanding and cooperation with media to disseminate positive outcomes.

*A University of Missouri School of Journalism student class has accepted the Task Force for a Jan-May 2007 project called the "Capstone Campaign" with limited cost involved (\$750) to research, create and recommend a public relations strategy to the Task Force. A new Task Force slogan and logo will be created. Research of the student class with recommendations will be presented to the Task Force in May 07.*

*Local media activities occur regularly for community awareness of Children's Division efforts. Examples are coverage or announcements regarding child abuse prevention month activities and promotion of adoption fairs.*

Recommendation: Establish a procedure for communicating information on positive CPS outcomes including Task Force vision/priorities on an ongoing basis.

*The University of Missouri School of Journalism is currently assisting with the development of a public affairs strategy for communicating positive outcomes to key stakeholders, including Legislators and the general public.*

*Press releases were issued after accreditation was achieved at the Hotline and Central Office. On-going press releases are available as progress continues to be made.*

*Appointment of new Task Force members was announced with a media release.*

*Governor's request for Task Force to review progress made on HB1453 policy and practice was announced with a media release.*

*An Accreditation newsletter was created and is available on the CD Intranet.*

*Task Force (CJA) on Children's Justice website is routinely updated.*

Recommendation: Children's Division policies to be made available on the web.

*This has been accomplished. Children's Division policies, including policy memorandums have been made available on the internet.*

**Children's Division and OSCA Achievements related to recommendations of the Task Force:**

PIP, resulting in improved collaboration among the various agencies

SACWIS implementation

Central office, hotline and some circuits approved for accreditation, with efforts ongoing

Structured Decision Making and Supervisor training efforts underway

On-going PDR process

MOJJIS utilized to facilitate sharing of information

Children's Division changed name – became its own separate Division

Open court hearings are now held (subject to Judge's discretion to close)

Local media activities for community awareness

# **MISSOURI TASK FORCE ON CHILDREN'S JUSTICE BY-LAWS**

## **ARTICLE I**

### **Membership**

The Missouri Task Force on Children's Justice shall consist of 21 members who shall be appointed by the Director of the Department of Social Services after consultation with the Missouri Supreme Court Chief Justice. The membership shall include, but not be limited to: law enforcement; judges and attorneys involved in both civil and criminal court proceedings related to child abuse and neglect; child advocates, including both attorneys for children and, where such programs are in operation, court appointed special advocates (CASA); health and mental health professionals; individuals representing child protective service agencies; individuals experienced in working with children with disabilities; and representatives of parents' groups.

The membership shall be representative of the various geographic regions and socioeconomic population of the state. Members of the task force shall be residents or employees in the State of Missouri. Not more than eleven members of the board shall be from the same political party. Members of the task force shall be appointed for a term of four years. Reappointment will be limited to three terms. Initial appointment will be comprised of staggering membership by thirds to serve two, three and four year terms, respectively.

Nonvoting members may be invited to attend, participate, or present information to the task force on an ad hoc basis. Their participation will be time-limited, at the discretion of the co-chairpersons.

## **ARTICLE II**

### **Powers and Duties**

The task force shall meet with the Director of the Children's Division and the State Courts Administrator, or their designees, a minimum of four times each year for the purpose of reviewing the activities of the division and shall file a written report with the Governor, General Assembly, the Chief Justice and the Director of the Department of Social Services regarding recommendations on agency policy and practice and the family/juvenile court practice, including their collaborative efforts with community child welfare agencies and other nonpublic entities. The task force, or a committee thereof, shall review individual case information as frequently as it deems necessary.

The task force shall review and evaluate state investigative, administrative and both civil and criminal judicial handling of cases of child abuse and neglect. The task force shall act as an Advisory Committee in which the task force will review, provide input, and evaluate DSS Children's Division priorities and progress. The task force shall make policy and training recommendations. The task force shall monitor the progress made on the recommendations included in the Final Report issued in June 2003 by the Missouri Supreme Court Commission on Children's Justice, and any subsequent reports that may be issued by the commission, and

annually notify the Chief Justice and the Director of the Department of Social Services of their findings. The task force shall review and the State shall submit an annual application to the Administration for Children and Families, Children's Bureau, for funding and shall have the authority to expend such funding, as appropriated by the Missouri General Assembly, for purposes of administration, operation, and to make grants of funds to be used in compliance with state and federal law. The task force will actively participate in strategizing public awareness efforts of DSS Children's Division.

The task force shall act as a Citizen Review Panel. Its duties as a Citizen Review Panel shall include, but not be limited to, the following:

- Reviewing the Children's Division's compliance with the State Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (CAPTA) Plan, child protection standards;
- Assisting the Children's Division in the coordination of foster care/adoption program;
- Assisting in the review of child fatalities and near fatalities;
- Examining policies, procedures, and where appropriate, specific cases; and
- Generating an annual report to be released to the public.

The Citizen Review Panel shall have access to any Children's Division case files and records necessary to the performance of its responsibilities. All members of the task force are subject to the confidentiality provisions set forth in the Revised Statutes of the State of Missouri, Section 210.150, RSMo.

No official task force business shall be conducted without a legally constituted quorum. The attendance of 14 task force members at a meeting shall constitute a quorum. Unless otherwise provided for by prior approval of the task force, all actions taken on behalf of the task force must be approved by a vote of 2/3 of the members present or 14 members, whichever is less. The task force shall have the authority to delegate limited approval authority to any standing committee as is necessary for the complete and efficient fulfillment of the task force's responsibilities.

The task force shall have the authority to propose amendments or modifications to these By-Laws. Such proposal shall be made to the director of the Children's Division and the State Court Administrator and presented by the director and administrator to the Director of the Department of Social Services and the Chief Justice of the Missouri Supreme Court for approval. Upon approval by the Director of Social Services and the Chief Justice of the Missouri Supreme Court, any such amendment or modification shall be effective.

### **ARTICLE III**

#### **Committees**

The task force shall have three standing committees: Finance, Legislative/Policy and Training. The chairpersons and members of each committee shall be named by the co-chairpersons of the task force. Each committee shall consist of at least five members of the task force who shall be voting members. Three voting committee members shall constitute a quorum. Each committee may also include not more than six non-voting members who are neither members of the division

staff nor members of the task force. The co-chairpersons of the task force shall jointly appoint the nonvoting members of the committees, if appropriate. The duty of the nonvoting members shall be to confer with and advise the voting members of the committees on matters before the committees. All actions or proposals approved by the committees by majority vote must be presented to the task force for final approval.

The Finance Committee shall be responsible for assisting with developing and implementing the strategic plan of task force priorities and commit to funding projects devoted to those priorities. The Finance Committee shall establish written guidelines regarding the dispersion of funds, subject to the approval of the task force. The Finance Committee shall make recommendations on funding proposals/projects to the task force. Such funding shall be utilized to assist the priorities of the DSS Children's Division, as designed and implemented, to comply with the requirements of CAPTA. The Finance Committee does not have the authority to fund such proposals/projects without task force approval, except that the task force shall have the authority to delegate to the Finance Committee the authority to approve general administration and operation expenditures, and grants of an amount not to exceed \$3,000.00.

The Legislation/Policy Committee shall be responsible for reviewing DSS Children's Division policy, priorities and progress toward recommendations, in addition to reviewing legislation impacting DSS and the courts.

The Training Committee shall be responsible for assisting DSS Children's Division and Office of State Court Administrator (OSCA) to focus efforts on multidisciplinary training annually. Additionally, this committee shall review and evaluate DSS Children's Division's training strategies and its communication plan.

## **ARTICLE IV**

### **Officers**

The officers of the task force shall be co-chairpersons, both of whom shall be designated by the Chief Justice of the Missouri Supreme Court and the Director of the Department of Social Services.

The co-chairpersons shall preside at all meetings of the task force, shall execute all instruments for and on behalf of the task force, and shall perform such other duties as the board may prescribe or authorize.

The terms of both co-chairpersons shall run for two years of their four-year task force term, and each co-chairperson may be reappointed for one additional two-year term.

The co-chairpersons shall appoint the chairperson and membership of each standing committee. Committee Chairpersons: Finance, Legislative/Policy, and Training will adhere to the above requirements. The task force co-chairpersons may appoint additional committees as deemed appropriate.

## **ARTICLE V**

### **Attendance and Expenses**

All task force members are expected to actively participate and attend the regular meetings of the task force. When a task force member is absent from three of the four scheduled meetings during a calendar year without giving notice or reason for being unable to attend, the member can be removed from the task force. The task force by a majority vote can recommend to the Director of Department of Social Services and the Supreme Court Chief Justice removal of a task force member. Upon approval by the department director and the Supreme Court Chief Justice, the member who is removed from the board will be notified of this action in writing by the co-chairperson of the Missouri Children's Justice Act Task Force.

Task force members shall be reimbursed for necessary and reasonable expenses incurred in attending the task force meetings and conducting approved business. DSS' Children's Division and OSCA shall jointly provide administrative support to the task force.

# ***PROJECTS AND PROGRAMS FINANCED BY THE TASK FORCE ON CHILDRENS JUSTICE***

<i><b>Year, Month</b></i>	<i><b>Project, Amount Awarded</b></i>
1995-1998	NCPA, approximately \$25,000.00 for mandated reporter's newsletter, 4 issues have been printed to date.
1997	MoCASA Conference on GAL training brochure and newsletter printing and mailing.
1997	The Victim Center, contract to co-produce booklet for children going to court, \$12,500.00.
1997	DFS Booklets, \$100,000.00.
1997	Stone County Assistant Team, \$9,198.00 for equipment for investigation of child sexual abuse.
1997	Citizens for Missouri's children, \$10,000.00 for research project.
1998	MoCASA, printing and mailing newsletter, \$844.
1998	MOPS, \$9,040.00 for 1998 Statewide training for Prosecutors, Investigation and Prosecution of Child Abuse.
1998	The Victim Center, Springfield, \$2,500.00 for 20 scholarships to attend their conference on child sexual abuse.
1998	Synergy Services, \$8,916.15, awarded for equipment for Child Advocacy Center.
1998	Missouri Juvenile Sexual Perpetrator Treatment Network, \$9,920.00 for scholarships and fee waivers for statewide attendees at training conference.
1998	CMC, \$1,000.00 for 7 scholarships for attendees to Assembly for Children and Families.
1998	MJJA, \$3,437.00 for speaker and handouts at yearly training conference.
1998	\$71,591.00 for 1999 Juvenile and Family Court Judges National Conference in St. Louis.
1999	MoCASA, printing and mailing newsletter, \$1,233.33.
1999	MOPS, for May 1999 conference, \$7,500.00.
1999	MJJA, \$3,500.00 for speaker.
1999	MPJOA, \$4,010.00.
1999	Prevent Child Abuse MO, Mandated Reporter Video, \$17,808.00.
1999	MoCASA, 2 newsletters, \$2,466.00.
1999	Synergy Training for CAC workers, \$8,865.00.



<i>Year, Month</i>	<i>Project, Amount Awarded</i>
1999	MOPS conference for 2000, \$13,070.00.
1999	STAT, \$54,502.85.
1999	DFS Accreditation Fee, \$60,000.00.
2000	Mandated Newsletter by Colleagues for Children, 4 newsletters, \$42,284.00.
2000	MoCASA, 4 newsletters, \$6,700.00.
2000	Victim Services Conference, \$5,000.00.
2000	MoCASA, statewide training, \$3,025.00.
2000	Citizens for MO Children, development of a resource manual, \$5,140.00.
2000	MO Police Juvenile Officer's Association, speakers fee \$2,845.50.
2000	STAT, for Child Fatality Review Panel Training, \$23,383.00.
2000	MOPS, conference in Spring of 2001, \$16,410.00.
2000	STAT, \$50,000.00.
2000	St. Louis Children's Hospital, \$10,000.00
2000	MoCASA, 4 newsletters, \$4,598.32.
2000	Core Curriculum, JWW & Associates, \$50,000.00
2000	MoCASA, 2 newsletters, \$2,492.00
2001	Mandated Newsletter by Colleagues for Children, 4 newsletters, \$46,128.00
2001	DFS Structured Decision Making, \$9,900.00
2001	MPJOA, \$3,3100.00
2001	MOPS 2002 Conference, \$18,130.00
2001	CA/N Conference, 2002, speaker fees, \$1,500.00
2001	DFS Structured Decision Making, \$24,924.00
2001	Midwest Foster Care and Adoption Association, Inc, \$20,000.00
2001	State Technical Assistance Team, \$21,347.00
2001	MJJA, 2001 Conference, 16 scholarships, \$2,400.00
2001	Midwest Foster Care and Adoption Association, Inc, \$23,700.00
2001	State Technical Assistance Team, \$32,382.10

<i>Year, Month</i>	<i>Project, Amount Awarded</i>
2001	Prevent Child Abuse MO, for 2003 National CA/N Conference being held in St. Louis, MO, \$50,000.00
2002, March	Children's Advocacy Center of East Central MO \$40,000.00
2002, March	MO Police Juvenile Officers Association (MPJOA) \$2,684.00
2002, March	MO Office of Prosecution Services (MOPS) \$3,000.00
2002, March	Colleagues for Children Newsletter (Prevent Child Abuse MO) \$49,691.34
2002, June	National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges \$60,000.00
2002, June	DFS - Scholarships for CA/N Conference Oct 2002 \$9,555.00
2002, June	DFS - Institute of Applied Research, DFS Child Protection Proposal \$50,000.00
2002, June	Missouri Juvenile Justice Association (MJJA) \$6,587.20
2002, June	MO Police Juvenile Officers Association (MPJOA) \$2,684.00
2002, June	DFS - Training Unit \$3,537.45
2002, December	National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges \$17,564.15
2003, March	Finding Words Advanced Training \$3,380.00
2003, March	Finding Words MO Scholarships \$39,550.00
2003, March	Midwest Foster and Adopt Association - Materials & Postage \$5,000.00
2003, June	MO Juvenile Justice Association \$23,220.00
2003, June	Citizens for MO Children \$12,365.00 cancelled due to veto of bill
2003, September	Citizens for MO Children \$3,952.00
2003, September	Midwest Foster Care and Adoption Association Conference \$45,000.00
2003, December	Prevent Child Abuse MO \$15,000.00
2003, December	East Central MO CAC Finding Word Scholarships for 2004 \$62,400.00
2004, March	North Central MO Children's Advocacy Center - \$3,323.38 Training Interviewers for the Advocacy Center
2004, March	Missouri Juvenile Justice Association - \$36,000.00 Scholarships for Registration Fees for 20 employees for May 26-28, 2004 Conference.
2004, September	Missouri Juvenile Justice Association - \$37,998.00 Scholarships for Registration Fees for 20 employees for October 27-29, 2004 Conference.

<i>Year, Month</i>	<i>Project, Amount Awarded</i>
2004, September	Midwest Foster Care and Adoption Association - \$47,260.00 Scholarships for Fall 2004 Conference.
2004, December	Missouri Juvenile Justice Association - \$37,180.00 Scholarships for Spring 2005 Conference.
2004, December	Office of State Courts Administrator - \$20,793.00 Comprehensive Children's Welfare Conference March 13 to May 6, 2005.
2005, March	Missouri Police Juvenile Officers Association - MPJOA - \$2,799.20 Conference in May 2005 for professionals to attend.
2005, March	Dr. Brenda J. Wagenknecht-Ivey - \$21,160.00 Facilitator for developing a strategic plan and priority setting process for Task Force.
2005, July	Midwest Foster Care and Adoption Association - \$8,500.00 Conference September 28-30, 2005.
2005, July	State Technical Assistant Team (STAT) - \$10,000.00 Combined Child Fatality Review Program/Children's Division Multidisciplinary Training.
2005, July	MO Juvenile Justice Association (MJJA) - \$3,500.00 Fall Education Conference October 26-28, 2005.

**Description of activities to be assisted with Children's Justice Act grant funds during FY07**

**1. Task Force on Children's Justice Operating Expenses**

Funding in the amount of \$10,000.00 is needed to support and maintain the activities, correspondence, teleconferences, quarterly meetings of the Task Force, and attendance for two persons to attend a CJA conference.

**Total                      \$ 10,000**

**2. Future Trainings for Children's Division/State Courts Administrator**

Various training sessions are planned to facilitate improved collaboration and multi-disciplinary team work between the Children's Division and the Office of State Courts Administrator. An attachment of the planned training sessions is attached.

**Total                      \$ 135,179**

**3. Child Assessment Centers**

Child Assessment Centers in Missouri are utilized for the investigation and prosecution of child abuse, in particular, child sexual abuse. The Children's Division currently funds Child Assessment Centers, of which a portion of the funding for the Child Assessment Centers comes from the CJA Grant.

The entire child population in Missouri has access to one of these centers, as they serve state-wide. The number of children served would be proportional to the number of children reported for child abuse and neglect, especially, sexual abuse. The children served are those children who have been reported as a victim of child abuse, but primarily, child sexual abuse. Child Assessment Centers are one-stop shops, where child victims can be interviewed one time, while allowing observation by witnesses such as the Guardian Ad Litem, Prosecuting Attorney, Law Enforcement and Children's Division Investigators, and recording of the interview for criminal prosecution. The Assessment Centers refer victims and their non-offending caregivers to additional supportive service providers when needed, who can continue to address trauma issues for the child or family. The Centers contribute to the reform of State systems handling of cases of child abuse and neglect by not only increasing the chance of effective prosecution by including multi-disciplinary team members and expert forensic interviewers in the investigation process, but it also further reduces trauma to the victim by reducing the number of interviews.

**Total                      \$ 162,000**

#### **4. University of Missouri School of Journalism – Capstone Campaign Project** **January – June 2007**

The 2005 Task Force Strategic Plan charged Action Team # 4 with the task of making people more aware of the Task Force and what they hope to accomplish. To address this objective, the Task Force requested the assistance of the University of Missouri School of Journalism, whose graduate class accepted the Task Force for their capstone project for a semester. The goal of the class is to educate Legislators and the public about goals and services of the Task Force, to build upon coalition partners of the Task Force, and to foster a unified feeling within the Task Force, ultimately resulting in a better understanding by the public and Legislative Branch of the needs of the Children's Division and State Courts. In order to do this, the class will conduct research, complete an assessment of the current Task Force functions, and create a public campaign that will assist the Task Force in disseminating their message. Preliminary work completed by the Capstone students includes the following:

The team decided secondary research should address these two primary problems:

1. Child abuse should be recognized as a serious problem.
2. Examine highlights and successes of the organization, such as the Task force supports CAC's, MFCAA and MJJA trainings.

They found the key audience for Task Force should be:

1. Legislators.
2. Child service professionals – social workers and other organizations.
3. Local and Key Media, which will increase awareness.

They reviewed the makeup of CJA membership, and looked at past and current projects funded.

They reviewed the Task Force website, and will be making recommendations on how to enhance the website to make it more interactive. Students will be designing a Task Force Home Page with side links for press releases, and information for legislators and public to know about the Task Force, as well as creating Brochures.

On Feb 28<sup>th</sup>, they interviewed 8 legislators (4 State Representatives and 4 Senators) about what they know about the CJA Task Force.

They have developed a creative tag line, of helping hands, with a Logo of 2 hands clasping together, for the Task Force to use.

They are working on a public relations campaign, a listserve concept, and prospect of event marketing at capital. Anything done should be accompanied by a press release, which would include the tag line and logo.

The students will start creative work on the budget, media plan, and calendar after Spring Break.

Students advised that the final presentation will include a campaign book for the Task Force. They will come up with a plan, give the plan to the Task Force, and the Task Force will need to move forward with it.

<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 5,000</b>
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## MISSION and VISION STATEMENTS

### **Task Force on Children's Justice - Mission Statement**

(From Bylaws – June 2005)

The purpose of the Task Force is to advocate for improvements in the Child Welfare System in Missouri....by making recommendations on (1) DSS policy and practices; (2) family and juvenile court practices; and (3) collaborative efforts with community child welfare and other nonpublic entities.

The Task Force also is to:

1. Examine administrative, investigative, & criminal/civil processing of cases involving child abuse & neglect;
2. Review, provide input, & evaluate the priorities/progress of the DSS Children's Division;
3. Make policy, legislative, & training recommendations;
4. Monitor progress on recommendations included in the Supreme Court Commission Final Report (June 2003) & subsequent reports;
5. Assist in developing public awareness strategies for the Children's Division; and
6. Serve as a Citizen Review Panel.

### **Task Force on Children's Justice - Vision Statement**

(June 2005)

1. Children are safe in their homes and communities.
2. Missouri's Child Protection System provides a comprehensive continuum of services including traditional and expanded services such as prevention, assessment, protection, support, treatment, health, and education.
3. Agencies, partners, and stakeholders communicate, cooperate, coordinate, and collaborate effectively.
4. The public understands, supports, recognizes, and values the contributions of the Child Protection System.
5. Communities are actively involved in keeping children safe.
6. The Child Protection System has adequate, stable, and flexible funding, and is accountable for the use of its resources.
7. Staff are competent, motivated, and valued.